

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Vednesday, June 29, 1977/Asadha 8,
1899 (Saka).

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Dislocation of Work in Jharia Coal-fields

*245. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about dislocation of work in Jharia coalfield in the first half of May, 1977;

(b) if so, facts thereof;

(c) the loss of production as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to restore industrial peace in the area?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). This was caused by a variety of factors including absenteeism, mechanical breakdown, interruption in power supply and industrial unrest. The total loss in production during this period was approximately 1,50,000 tonnes.

(d) Management has been taking all possible steps to prevent stoppage of work and settle the local as well as general demands of workers through discussions and negotiations with various Unions and by using the official conciliation machinery.

1027 L.S.—1

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: He says there are various unions. May I know which is the recognised union?

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: The existing unions are AITUC, INTUC and other unions in that area.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: That means there is no recognised union and there is mushroom growth of unions. You are allowing them to operate and they are indulging in all sorts of strikes, etc.

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: The recognition of unions is done after verification of membership. But the policy is the same, whether it is a recognised union or an unrecognised union.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: The answer is not clear. Is it also a fact that there was violence and one medical officer and other officers were gheraoed for 8 hours? May I know what is the policy of the government regarding gheraos?

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: The policy of the government is not to allow gheraos and not to recognise gheraos. With regard to the earlier question. I would like to say that AITUC and INTUC are the recognised unions.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछ वाय ! क्या यह सही है कि इस प्रकार के झगड़े मूलतः यूनियनों की मान्यता को लेकर होते हैं—जिन यूनियनों की सदस्य-संख्या नगण्य होती है, उनको मान्यता दे दी जाती है. जब कि अधिक सदस्य-संख्या वाली यूनियनों को मान्यता नहीं दी जाती है ? क्या सरकार कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था करेगी कि मतदान के माध्यम से ही यूनियनों को मान्यता मिले ?

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: Yes, Sir. Government will take all necessary steps to see that the unions are recognised based on their membership. If it has not been done in the past, it will be done in the future.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA: He asked whether recognition will be given based on ballot, not on verification of membership.

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: That is also one of the questions that is being considered.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: May I know whether the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh or the trade unions belonging to any other constituents of the Janata Party are seeking recognition in the Jharia coal fields? Has the minister satisfied himself that the INTUC and AITUC which are already recognised and established unions in the coalfield are not having a majority of the workers with them?

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: This is a question for future action and we will definitely go into the question and see whether the unions can be recognised.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: I would like to know whether any unions belonging to any constituents of Janata Party are seeking recognition in Jharia coalfields like the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh.

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: We have no information in that respect, but these unions will be recognised based on the membership and if that is not done correctly in future it will be done correctly.

बौधरी बलबीर सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय बतलायेंगे कि इस बारे में सरकार की क्या पालिसी है कि एक ट्रेड यूनियन में एक ही यूनियन बननी चाहिए ? इसके लिए सरकार क्या कार्यवाही करना चाहती है ?

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: This is a policy question which has reference to the Labour Ministry. I suppose the Labour Minister will look into this.

Energy produced from Hydro Power

*247. **SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that energy produced from hydro power is not stable; and

(b) if so, alternative arrangements contemplated to meet the power shortage?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b). The output from a hydro-electric project is designed taking into account the availability of water and the operating head. As hydrological conditions vary from year to year, the hydro stations as a rule are designed to generate power on the basis of 90 per cent dependability. The output from hydro-electric stations can however vary to make available additional generation in good years when water availability exceeds planned conditions. Generation is also subject to the manner of operation of reservoirs in the case of storage-based hydro stations.

If the overall performance of hydro-electric stations is judged against the designed potential then, by and large, the performance of hydro-electric power stations in the country has been satisfactory. But, in hydro stations which are run of the river type or which do not have the flexibility of a carry-over storage, there will be fluctuations in energy output depending on additional availability of water in excess of what had been planned.